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The Meadows Music & Arts Festival brings major acts to Citi Field. 21

Wahlberg trades spray can for film script. 2

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3 things you need to know

PROSECUTORS: MH17 DOWNED BY RUSSIAN-MADE MISSILE

Malaysia Airlines flight MH17 was shot down by a missile fired from a launcher brought into Ukraine from Russia and located in a village held by pro-Russian rebels, international prosecutors said on Wednesday. The findings counter Moscow's suggestion that the passenger plane, en route from Amsterdam to Kuala Lumpur in July 2014, was brought down by Ukraine's military rather than the separatists. All 298 people on board, most of them Dutch, were killed. The conclusions were based on thousands of wiretaps, photographs, witness statements and forensic tests during more than two years of inquiries into an incident which led to a sharp rise in tensions between Russia and the West. Among the key findings were: The plane was hit by a Russian-made Buk-9M38 missile; the missile was fired from the rebel-held village of Pervomaysk in eastern Ukraine; and the launcher was transported into Ukraine from Russia. REUTERS

SENATE OVERWHELMINGLY REJECTS OBAMA VETO OF SAUDI SEPT. 11 BILL

2 The U.S. Senate on Wednesday overwhelmingly rejected President Barack Obama's veto of legislation allowing relatives of the victims of the Sept. 11 attacks to sue Saudi Arabia's government. The final vote was 97-1 against the veto. Democratic Minority Leader Harry Reid was the lone "no" vote. Democratic Sen. Tim Kaine, Hillary Clinton's vice presidential running mate, and Bernie Sanders, an independent who caucuses with Democrats and is a former White House contender, did not vote. The measure next goes to the House of Representatives, which was due to vote later on Wednesday. If two-thirds of House members also support the "Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act," it would be the first veto override of Obama's eight-year presidency. REUTERS

APPLE MOVING UK HQ TO LANDMARK BATTERSEA POWER STATION

3 Apple said on Wednesday it is moving its London headquarters to the landmark Battersea Power Station, a move hailed by the government as a sign that major firms are still investing after the Brexit vote. The power station, built in the 1930s and famous for its imposing quartet of art deco chimneys, stood derelict on the south bank of the River Thames for about three decades until the site was bought in 2012 by a Malaysian consortium. A total of 42 acres is being developed with around half the area earmarked for shops, restaurants and hotels and half for housing. REUTERS

METRO'S NEWS QUIZ

You read Metro to stay on top of the news. Now's your chance to find out how much you know. Take our daily news quiz to test your knowledge by going to www.metro.us /news-quiz to submit your answers.

1. What has the MTA decided to do to help commuters?

2. Which running back does Fantasy Football writer Bill Dubiel suggest you pick up in your league?

3. What is our Geek Girl blogger Jenna Busch's Harry Potter Patronus?

Metro NewYork celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month

Jeffrey Wahlberg PROVIDED

Young actor uses spray paint to reveal his Latino roots

Graffiti dreams: Jeffrey Wahlberg collaborates with Cuban-American director Jokes Yanes for a film about tagging.

AMANDA MIKELBERG
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Jeffrey Wahlberg has been very busy carving out a Hollywood career.

The dark-haired, brooding nephew of A-lister Mark Wahlberg stars in the upcoming post-apocalyptic indie thriller "Future World" alongside Lucy Liu, Snoop Dogg and James Franco — who is also the movie's co-director with Bruce Thierry Cheung — due out January 2017.

(Uncle Mark also has a movie about to drop. Disaster-drama "Deepwater Horizon," about the 2010 oil-rig explosion, premieres this Friday).

Despite his supernova dreams and having just turned 20, Wahlberg is still close to his roots as a deeply creative kid and half-Irish, half-Domincan American. Though he's always wanted to act, his first obsessions were drawing, sculpting and graffiti art — something that once figured strongly in Latin-American street culture as a form of identity and expression, particularly in New York City, and in Miami where he grew up.

"I went through a phase where graffiti was my obsession and my passion," Wahlberg told Metro. "It was a three- to four-year period where I would do it every day. I went through multiple art phases like that. At first I was obsessed with drawing. Then I went through the graffiti phase. Then I painted. Then I went to making sculpture."

Graffiti is the subject of his latest project with Emmy Award-winning director Jorge "Jokes" Yanes, which screened at New York's Latin American Film Festival this month. "Toyed," set in the 1990s, is about a teen who becomes embroiled in intergang conflict involving tagging and pride in graffiti. "Toyed" is a 22-minute short that Yanes is adapting into a feature-length film starring Wahlberg.

While growing up in Miami, Yanes, a renowned Cuban-American director known for major contributions to Latino TV, was himself heavily involved in graffiti art phenomenon in the hip-hop dominated '90s. Even as the murals are torn down and replaced by urban renewal, Yanes said, graffiti's significance to the Latinos of New York City and Miami remains.

For many, grafitti was and is the way to connect to society when there is a language divide, Yanes said. He also notes that some of the iconic graffiti style can be traced to Hispanic artists. And those who travel to Spanish-speaking countries will see many murals on buildings that bring art-viewing into the public space.

"Because of the language barrier, you want to express yourself in picture rather than language. It's its own language in a sense. Among Hispanics having a skill in art is very respectable and almost expected of you," Yanes said.

For others, graffiti is part of the battle to overcome hard life-circumstances in unforgiving neighborhoods. Richy Rodriguez, aka TatOver, a Puerto-Rican American and major New York graffiti artist, grew up in the Bronx and ran into trouble with the law for pushing the envelope on freedom of expression on properties. After serving time, he is more empowered to use his art to make a better life.

"In many ways "Toyed" is for all of those Hispanic kids who have to battle to let the art out, but that's what winning takes, stepping up and making art, whatever that means to you," Rodriquez told Metro.

But the way that graffiti artists get their message across is different these days, says Yanes.

"It's totally changed. It used to be about stumbling into it, seeing it from a distance. It was more about the live experience," Yanes said.

"Something could be up for two years. Now if something illegal goes up it will come down in two days."

Now, "it's all about Instagram," he said.

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East Village explosion victim sells vacant lot for $6M

The lot sold for significantly less than the asking price.

6sqft

When the Second Avenue gas explosion tore through three East Village buildings in March 2015, George Pasternak lost his property at 123 Second Ave., which housed the famed Pommes Frites and a deli, by no fault of his own. And when the city demolished what remained, he was charged $350,000. But this past March, he listed the vacant lot for $9.7 million, and now 6sqft has uncovered property records that show he's made the sale for $6 million, significantly less than the asking price.

The explosion occurred after Pasternak's neighbor Maria Hrynenko (who owned the other two destroyed buildings) rigged the gas lines. Two people were killed in the blast, and Hrynenko and four contractors were ultimately charged with manslaughter and negligent homicide. When the listing went up in March, the Post reported that the site could accommodate 10,000 buildable square feet for condos and retail.

The actual listing said:

Vacant lot (25' x 100') for rental or condo development with commercial overlay offered for sale. 1031 exchange opportunity, in prime East Village location (2nd Ave and 7th Street), and currently zoned C1-5/R7A. FAR ranges from 3.45-4.6 subject to the DOB approval of proposed/planned build out, to be filed by potential purchaser post closing. Building sketch for illustration purposes only.

The new owner purchased the site under the LLC "123 Second Ave, Corp.," but based on the deed he is Ezra Jason Wibowo.

DANA SCHULZ

View of the vacant lot from the Compass listing COMPASS

BRIEFS

City to consider medical supervision centers for drug addicts

New York City will consider providing heroin addicts and other users of intravenous drugs a place to get high with medical supervision.

The City Council is expected to allocate $100,000 for a health department study of supervised injection facilities.

Seattle is the only city in the U.S. that has made moves toward opening such a facility. A task force there has issued a host of recommendations for such facilities, including the stockpiling of naloxone, which is used to treat heroin overdoses.

New York would study the feasibility of opening such facilities with money from a $5.6 million fund in its budget that is earmarked for fighting the AIDS epidemic.

"Supervised injection facilities around the world have been shown to reduce healthcare costs, decrease HIV and hepatitis B and C infection rates and prevent fatal overdoses," council member Corey Johnson, chairman of the health committee, said in a news release. "With the creation of this study, the Council is continuing our history of leading on innovative strategies to end the epidemic and address drug abuse."

Supervised injection facilities have opened in Europe and Canada. A study conducted by a group of Canadian researchers found that overdose deaths in Vancouver decreased 35 percent from 2001 to 2003 after a facility opened there, according to an article in The Lancet.

Advocates of supervised injection argue that the facilities reduce the instances of shared needles by drug users and can function as a bridge between users and mental health specialists. GARY KANE

Mom, boyfriend charged in bruised boy's death

A Harlem mother of a 6-year-old boy and her boyfriend are being accused of causing the death of the child who was brought to a Manhattan hospital with multiple bruises on his body, police said Wednesday.

Zymere Perkins had severe bruising to his head and body and died Monday at Mount Sinai St. Luke's Hospital, investigators said.

Geraldine Perkins, 26, the boy's mother, and her boyfriend, Rysheim Smith, 42, were each charged with acting in a manner injurious to a child, police said. The charges could eventually be upgraded pending the results of the investigation.

Perkins told police that Smith had beaten the child for defecating in an ice bucket, the Daily News reported. Area television news broadcasts showed investigators with a broomstick that they apparently seized as evidence.

Perkins has been accused of child abuse in the past, the Daily News reported.

There was no information available as to whether Perkins and Smith have obtained lawyers who could comment on their behalf about the charges.

GARY KANE

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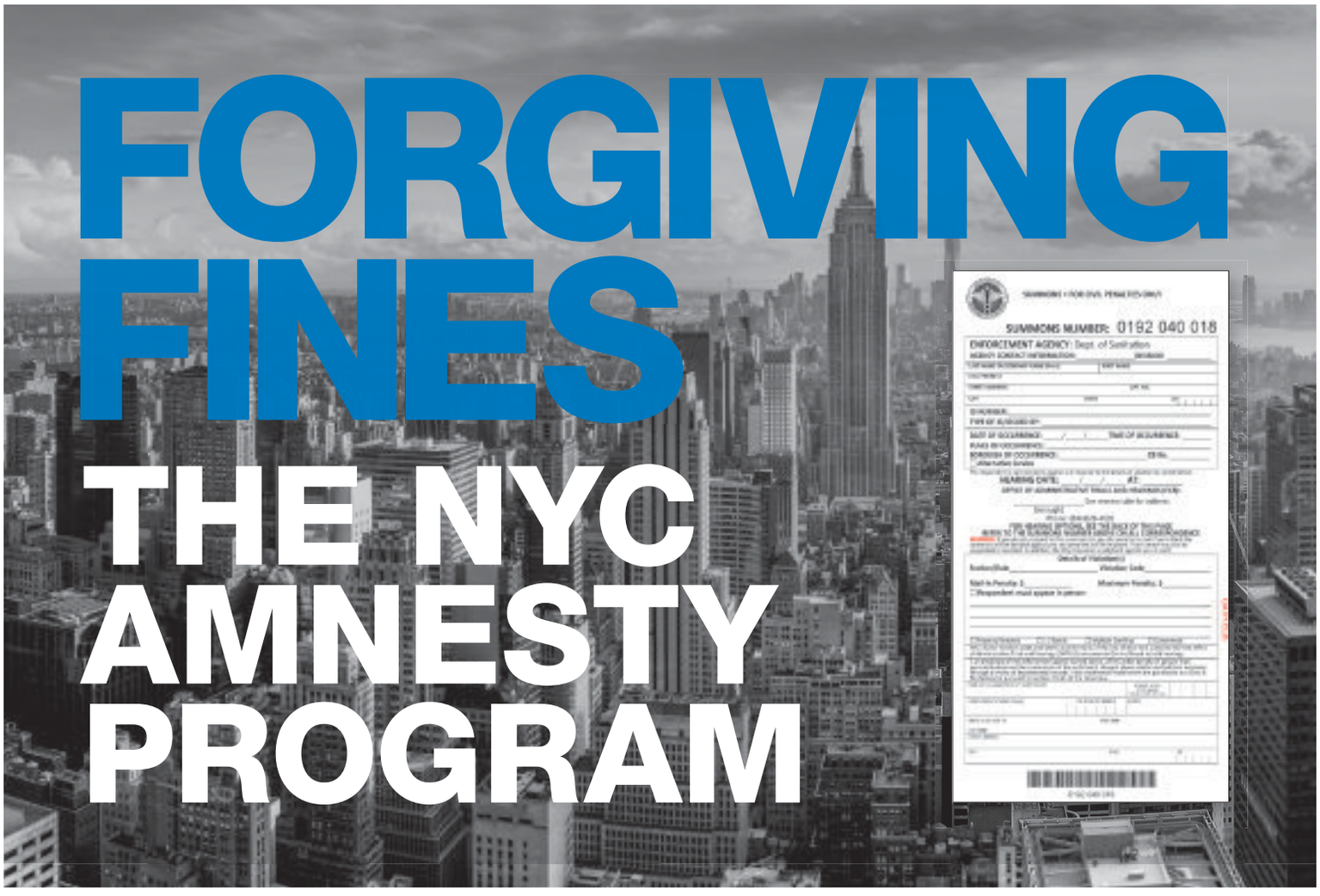

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Commissioner

*Violations must be in judgment. This means the City has taken the legalstep of filing a public record of your liability in court for the entire amount due. After the court filing, interest accrues. The NYC Amnesty Program excludes criminal violations and violations over $25,000. Other limitations, exclusions and eligibility requirements apply.

NYPD questions suspect in Bronx explosion while FDNY pays tribute to fallen hero

NYPD arrested Julio Salcedo Contrer, who rented the house and is suspected of growing marijuana there.

KIMBERLY AQUILINA
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Michael Fahy and his family, FDNY; Julio Salcedo Contrer (inset). PROVIDED

NYPD is questioning a suspect in connection with the explosion of a Bronx house that killed FDNY Battalion Chief Michael Fahy.

Julio Salcedo Contrer, 34, was arrested Tuesday at his girlfriend's apartment in Cliffside Park, New Jersey, by the NYPD for driving without a license, New York Post reported. After speaking to first responders after the explosion on West 234th Street on Tuesday morning, Salcedo left town for New Jersey.

Since then, he has been held as a fugitive from justice in the Bergen County Jail, Lohud reported.

It wasn't immediately clear when he would be extradited, but he is expected to face drug charges. FDNY and NYPD found pot plants on the second floor and basement of the house Salcedo rented, the Post reported.

Salcedo rented the house in Kingsbridge. Police suspect it was a marijuana grow-house.

New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio said on WYNC that there was a "strong indication it was a marijuana grow-house … with all the different equipment there that could have been the cause.

"We're obviously looking for everyone in addition to the one individual who has been apprehended," he said. "We're looking for everyone else who may have either involved or have knowledge of this site because we actually have to get to the bottom of what happened here. And we have to hold everyone involved responsible."

ATF spokesman Matthew Meyerson told Lohud that the agency is assisting NYPD and FDNY and that the cause of the blast has not yet been determined.

"It's way too early to decide a cause," Meyerson said. "They are starting the demolition work."

The funeral for Fahy is set for Saturday at Annunciation Church, 470 Westchester Ave., Yonkers, according to FDNY. The wake will be held Thursday and Friday at Flower Funeral Home, 714 Yonkers Ave., Yonkers.

ANGELA N./CREATIVE COMMONS

Commuters can customize service advisories with My MTA Alerts

The MTA is rolling out a new email and text alert system designed for the one-track mind.

The My MTA Alerts system is being improved to allow subscribers to choose when they get alerts (at 30-minute intervals) for information specifically about which bus, subway, LIRR, Metro North train or toll crossing is on their route. It also provides alerts on elevator service outages at many stations and LIRR branches.

The original email and text alerts introduced to the MTA in 2008 proved to be a popular tool, but users would only be able to schedule alerts in four-hour windows. The new 30-minute windows provide updates much closer to real time and eliminates the distracting and confusing information that might have led some to opt out of the service.

"We have improved an already incredibly useful travel-planning tool with the primary goal of providing our customers additional flexibility regarding the date and specific time interval they receive notifications," MTA Chairman and CEO Thomas F. Prendergast said. "Now, you don't have to receive alerts about service issues that will not affect you. You can pick the times based solely on when you travel."

To use this service:

Sign in or create a login at MyMTAalerts.com

Select the Edit button to the right of "Alert and Advisory Preferences" to pick when to receive alerts, or put alerts on hold (during a vacation, for example). AMANDA MIKELBERG

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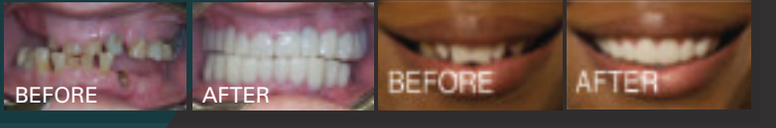

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*Ejji Yamashita et al., "The effects of a dietary supplement containing astaxanthin on skin condition"; Carotenoid Science, Vol 10 (2006).

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California, eyeing Cosby, ends statute of limitations for rape

Actor and comedian Bill Cosby leaves a preliminary hearing on sexual assault charges on May 24, 2016 in at Montgomery County Courthouse in Norristown, Pennsylvania. GETTY IMAGES

Cosby, who built a long career on family friendly comedy, including his long-running NBC sitcom "The Cosby Show," has steadfastly denied ever assaulting anyone and has insisted that all his sexual encounters were consensual.

California Gov. Jerry Brown on Wednesday signed a bill to end the statute of limitations for rape, a measure inspired by accusations against comedian Bill Cosby, some of which surfaced decades after alleged crimes occurred.

Cosby, who built a long career on family friendly comedy, including his long-running NBC sitcom "The Cosby Show," has steadfastly denied ever assaulting anyone and has insisted that all his sexual encounters were consensual.

He is charged in Pennsylvania with drugging and sexually assaulting a former Temple University employee, Andrea Constand, at his home in 2004. In California, he faces a civil suit by a woman now in her 50s who alleges that Cosby plied her with alcohol and molested her in 1974 at the Playboy Mansion when she was aged 15.

Existing California law generally limits prosecution of a felony sexual offense to 10 years after the offense is committed.

Only two in 100 rapists will be convicted of a felony and spend any time in prison, according to the U.S. Department of Justice.

"Governor Jerry Brown's signature of SB 813 tells every rape and sexual assault victim in California that they matter and that, regardless of when they are ready to come forward, they will always have an opportunity to seek justice in a court of law," said bill author Senator Connie Leyva.

"Rapists should never be able to evade legal consequences simply because an arbitrary time limit has expired," she said.

The bill will not work retroactively and will not help some of Cosby's accusers, according to Gloria Allred, an attorney who represents several of the comedian's alleged victims.

The governors of Nevada and Colorado have signed similar bills extending the statute of limitations to 20 years for rape cases into law.

The California law takes effect on Jan. 1, 2017. REUTERS

BRIEF

California suspends business relationships with Wells Fargo

California State Treasurer John Chiang announced a sweeping suspension of business relationships with Wells Fargo & Co as punishment for the company's defrauding of customers.

In addition, Chiang vowed to work with the state's two giant public pension funds to change the management structure at the bank, which is California's oldest financial institution.

The sanctions, which will last for 12 months, include suspending Wells Fargo as a managing underwriter on state negotiated bond sales. California is the nation's largest issuer of municipal debt.

"We want to make sure that Wells Fargo understands its errors, and we want to make sure there is meaningful change," Chiang told reporters, adding that the bank would not be happy with the State's actions.

"We hit them with the three most highly profitable lines of business," Chiang said.

Wells Fargo responded that company understood "the concerns that have been raised," and promised to "address these issues and rebuild the state's trust." The company's stock rose 0.48 percent to close at $45.31. REUTERS

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The Manhattan Educational Opportunity Center (MEOC) is celebrating 50 years of providing academic and workforce development services to eligible New Yorkers.

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Students at the MEOC can also choose career training in Certified Microsoft® Office, Security Officer Training and Civil Service Exam Prep. For those interested in the healthcare industry, the MEOC offers Electronic Health Records and Certified Nursing Assistant training programs. "Our goal is to move our students towards self-sufficiency," says MEOC Executive Director Anthony Watson. "Our programs are not only changing the lives of the individual student, but also the lives of their families."

As workforce trends of New York City have evolved for the last 50 years, the MEOC has adapted its programs and trainings.

The MEOC's newest initiative, the Hospitality Training Program, begins in Fall 2016. This program will prepare individuals for certifications from the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation (NRAEF), giving them an edge over other job seekers as they pursue careers in the hospitality, restaurant and hotel industries.

Students at the MEOC also build their employability by working with Employment Specialists on resume writing, interview skills and workplace communication. They benefit from one-on-one counseling, financial aid application assistance and college campus tours.

"Our goal is to prepare individuals for stable careers, and to develop industry partners who look to us for qualified employees," says Watson. "The sky's the limit for our students and we will continue to help them reach their highest potential every step of the way."

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More US troops to Iraq ahead of Mosul battle

Pentagon spokesman Captain Jeff Davis said the troops would be deployed in the coming weeks.

The United States will send around 600 new troops to Iraq to assist local forces in the battle to retake Mosul from Islamic State that is expected later this year, U.S. and Iraqi officials said on Wednesday.

The new deployment is the third such boost in U.S. troop levels in Iraq since April, underscoring the difficulties President Barack Obama has had in extracting the U.S. military from the country.

"American President Barack Obama was consulted on a request from the Iraqi government for a final increase in the number of trainers and advisers under the umbrella of the international coalition in Iraq," Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi said in a statement.

The new troops will train and advise Iraqi security forces and Kurdish peshmerga forces, primarily in the Mosul fight but also serve "to protect and expand Iraqi security forces' gains elsewhere in Iraq," U.S. Defense Secretary Ash Carter said.

"We've said all along — whenever we see opportunities to accelerate the campaign, we want to seize them," Carter said.

Though Iraqi forces will be in the combat role, "American forces combating ISIL in Iraq are in harm's way," Carter said, using an acronym for Islamic State.

Some of the 615 new service members will be based at Qayara air base, about 40 miles from Mosul, Carter said. Iraqi forces recaptured the base from Islamic State militants in July and have been building it into a logistics hub to support their offensive into the northern city.

A U.S. soldier armed with an M249 light machine gun. GETTY IMAGES

Other U.S. troops will go to Ain al Asad air base in western Iraq, where hundreds of U.S. personnel have been training Iraqi army forces.

Carter, who spoke to reporters while traveling in New Mexico, declined to name other locations where the new U.S. forces will be based.

However, he said that some of the forces would help enhance intelligence gathering efforts, particularly related to Islamic State's plans to conduct attacks outside its own territory. REUTERS

NYBG/125

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Suspect caught in shooting of teacher, two kids at S. Carolina school

A teenager shot and wounded two children and a teacher at an elementary school in South Carolina, before being taken into custody on Wednesday, police said at a news conference.

The shooting happened early in the afternoon at Townville Elementary School in Anderson County, located near the Georgia state line about 100 miles northeast of Atlanta.

The two injured students were flown by helicopter to a hospital and the teacher was driven by ambulance, police said. Other students were evacuated to a nearby church.

Reuters could not immediately reach the Anderson County Sheriff's Office for comment.

Anderson County Sheriff's Office FACEBOOK

The United States has long been plagued by shootings at schools and colleges, some of which have claimed dozens of lives. In 2012, a gunman shot dead 20 children and six educators at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut. The deadliest mass school shooting was in 2007, when a gunman killed 32 people at Virginia Tech University.

Earlier this month, a 14-year-old girl shot and wounded a fellow student at a rural Texas high school and then died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

REUTERS

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• Quick books	SAT	10/1-12/3/16	10am-1pm

Professional Certificate Programs

• Teacher Assistant	M, W	10/03-12/19/16	
• Security Guard 8-hour Course	SAT	10/15/16,11/12/16, 12/10/16	9:30am-5:30pm
• Security Guard 16-hour Course	FRI, SAT	10/21-10/22 11/18-11/19/16	9:30am-5:30pm
• Proveedor de Cuidado de Ninos	SAT	10/1-12/17/16	

Health careers Certifications

• C.N.A. Evening	M-TH	10/03/16-12/20/16	6pm-9pm
• C.N.A. Morning	M-TH	10/17/16-12/01/16	9am-2pm
• CPR/AED professional Rescuers	SAT	10/15,11/05	10am-2pm
• Phlebotomy	M-TH	10/11-11/28/16	6pm-9pm
• EKG Technician	SAT	10/1-12/03/16	10am-1pm
• EKG Technician	T, TH	11/01-12/08/16	6pm-9pm
• Dental Assistant	M, W	10/17-1/30/16	6pm-9pm
• Medical Assistant	M, T, TH	11/14-3/20/17	6pm-9pm
• Pharmacy Technician	T, W, TH	10/25-01/18/17	6pm-9pm

Children's Programing

• College for Kids	SAT	10/1-12/03/16	

Education & Language Skills

• English Links/Inglés Intensivo	M-FRI	10/03-12/06/16	9am-1:30pm
• English Links/Inglés Intensivo	SAT	10/1-12/03/16	9am-2pm
• ESL/Inglés como Segundo Idioma	M, W	10/03-12/12/16	6pm-9pm
• ESL/Inglés como Segundo Idioma	T, TH	10/04-12/13/16	6pm-9pm
• HSE English	T, TH	9/27-12/20/16	9:30am – 12:30pm
• HSE English	T, TH	9/27-12/20/16	6pm -9pm
• HSE Spanish	M, W	10/3- 1/04/17	9:30-12:30pm
• HSE Spanish	M, W	10/3-1/04/17	6pm -9pm
• SAT Exam Preparation	SAT	10/01-12/03/16	10am-1pm

Enrichment Program

• Beginner Crochet	TUE	10/11-12/13/16	6pm-8pm
• Event Planning	T, TH	10/11-11/17/16	6pm-9pm

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Protesters chant 'murder' in police shooting of black man in California

A screen grab from a video of the incident. EL CAJON POLICE DEPT.

Police did not immediately identify the victim, but local activists and friends named him as Ugandan-born Alfred Olango. They said he was mentally ill and that he may have been suffering a seizure in the moments before his death.

Protesters yelled "murder" and demanded a federal investigation on Wednesday after a police officer in southern California shot and killed an unarmed black man, less than two weeks after similar incidents sparked outrage in two other U.S. cities.

In the latest shooting, two officers responded to calls about an African-American man in his 30s walking in traffic and "not acting like himself," according to police in El Cajon, a city of about 100,000 residents some 15 miles northeast of San Diego.

Days earlier, in Charlotte, North Carolina and in Tulsa, Oklahoma, police and shot and killed black men, igniting demonstrations against racial bias in U.S. policing and demands for greater accountability for officers.

In Charlotte, rioting prompted the authorities to impose a state of emergency and curfew.

El Cajon officers found Olango behind a restaurant at about 2 p.m. PDT (2100 GMT) on Tuesday and ordered him to remove his hand from his pocket. After he refused, one officer drew a firearm and the other readied a Taser device, police said.

Olango paced back and forth as the officers tried to talk to him with their weapons pointed at him, police said.

Police said Olango then pulled an object from his front pants pocket, placed both hands together and extended them toward an officer in "what appeared to be a shooting stance."

The officers simultaneously shot and used the Taser on the man, who died after being taken to the hospital, police said.

No weapon was found at the scene, El Cajon Police Chief Jeff Davis told reporters. He did not say what the man was pointing.

"Now is a time for calm," Davis said. "I implore the community to be patient with us, work with us, look at the facts at hand before making any judgment."

REUTERS

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Mother, brother of NYC bomb suspect held in Afghanistan

Rahami has been held in a Newark, New Jersey, hospital since his arrest last week with wounds after a shootout with police.

Ahmad Rahami PROVIDED

The mother and a brother of New York City bombing suspect Ahmad Rahami have been detained in Afghanistan after trying to return to the United States and being taken off a flight, the suspect's father told ABC News.

The father, Mohammad Rahami, said in an interview published on ABC's website on Wednesday that his wife, Najiba, and another of his sons, Qassim, were in Dubai when they were pulled from a flight and questioned for 16 hours by authorities there.

Authorities then sent them to Kabul, he said.

"Why send my son back to Afghanistan? He is a U.S. citizen. You have any questions? Bring him home, [don't] send him to a different country," Mohammad Rahami said of Qassim.

Reuters could not immediately confirm that the two were being held.

Ahmad Rahami, a 28-year-old naturalized U.S. citizen, emigrated from Afghanistan with his family at the age of 7. They settled in Elizabeth, New Jersey, and opened a fried chicken restaurant.

Rahami faces federal charges in the bombing this month that injured 31 people in Manhattan's Chelsea neighborhood, and in connection with explosives found at locations in New Jersey. No one was killed in the blasts.

Investigators have probed Rahami's history of travel to Afghanistan and Pakistan. He was motivated by militant Islamist views, prosecutors say, citing a journal he carried when he was captured in which he begged for martyrdom and expressed outrage at what he called the U.S. slaughter of Muslim fighters.

The American Civil Liberties Union said on Monday it will temporarily provide legal counsel to Rahami, as concern grew over his lack of access to a lawyer. Authorities say Rahami is not physically able to appear in court, and he has not. REUTERS

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Elon Musk outlines plans for humans to colonize Mars

SpaceX intends to fly to Mars about every 26 months when Earth and Mars are favorably aligned.

SpaceX is developing a massive rocket and capsule to transport large numbers of people and cargo to Mars with the ultimate goal of colonizing the planet, company chief and tech billionaire Elon Musk said on Tuesday.

Musk outlined his plans for the Mars rocket, capable of carrying 100 passengers plus cargo per voyage, even as SpaceX is still investigating why a different rocket carrying a $200 million Israeli satellite blew up on a launch pad in Florida earlier this month.

Musk said he would like to launch the first crew as early as 2024, a schedule he said was optimistic. Musk also said there would be no guarantee of survival for anyone signing up with SpaceX for the "incredible adventure" of a trip to Mars.

"The risk of fatality will be high. There's no way around it. Basically, are you prepared to die? And if that's OK then you're a candidate for going," he said at a presentation at the International Astronautical Congress meeting in Guadalajara, Mexico. Though Musk said he envisions humans living in a large colony on Mars and possibly terraforming the planet, he added that one key issue will be getting the cost low enough to attract customers. "You can't create a self-sustaining civilization if the ticket price is $10 billion per person," he said. "Our goal is to get it roughly equivalent to [the] cost of a median house in the United States, about $200,000."

Mars colonists would not have to sign up for a one-way journey since reusing the spaceships helps in keeping the transportation costs low, Musk said.

"The number of people willing to move to Mars is much greater if they have the option of returning, even if they never do," he said.

Musk said it would be a challenge to fund the Mars effort, with development costs estimated at $10 billion. "I'm personally accumulating assets in order to fund this," he said, adding that "ultimately this is going to be a huge public-private partnership."

SpaceX, which Musk founded specifically with the purpose of colonizing Mars, is one of several private and government-funded ventures vying to put people and cargo on the Red Planet and other destinations beyond Earth's orbit.

Mars is typically 140 million miles from Earth and landing the first humans there, after what traditionally has been a six- to nine-month journey, is an extremely ambitious goal. Musk expects his rocket to be able to cut the transit time to as little as three months and released a four-minute video showing the craft. Amazon.com founder Jeff Bezos' Blue Origin space venture is also designing a heavy-lift vehicle and capsule called New Armstrong, that will be capable of Mars transport, company President Rob Meyerson said.

The U.S. government is also stepping up efforts to venture beyond the moon.

NASA is supporting SpaceX's first mission to Mars, which is targeted for launch in 2018. SpaceX wants to send an unmanned capsule, called Red Dragon, to the surface of Mars to test descent, entry and landing systems.

NASA will be providing deep-space and Mars communications relays for SpaceX and consulting services in exchange for flight data. NASA wants to be able to land payloads weighing up to about 30 tons on Mars. So far, the heaviest vehicle to land on Mars was the 1-ton Curiosity rover. REUTERS

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Rob Kardashian and his sisters are beefin'—what else is new?

Khloe, Kim, Kylie and Kourtney planned a shower for their brother, who is expecting a baby with on-again, off-again fiancee Blac Chyna, and at the last minute he didn't show up!

At first sources told Us Weekly that Rob bailed after hearing the party would be filmed for their show, "Keeping up with the Kardashians," so he was like, "F—k that."

Or maybe they're just too cool for tradition. Apparently the couple plan to throw a "co-ed, gender-neutral" baby shower Oct. 2, which they'll film for their own show, "Rob and Chyna." A source told Us Weekly the sisters will not be in attendance, as they're not tight with Chyna's friends, like Amber Rose.

Back on Monday, Rob tweeted out Kylie's phone number followed by a bunch of laugh-crying emojis. He has since retweeted it, adding what may or may not be the real reason he's pissed: "Didn't invite the Mother of my child to a baby shower you were all trying to throw for me. You all must have lost your damn minds."

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

But wait! Yesterday TMZ reported that Chyna and Rob have actually been broken up for months, and *that's* why Chyna wasn't invited. Sounds like they were just trying to be supportive sisters.

His family is worried about his physical health, in addition to the emotional toll of this unhealthy relationship—since getting together with Chyna, he's gained back the 50 pounds he lost only a few months back.

So. Much. Drama.

Vogue remade "Freedom" for the Instagram generation

VOGUE.COM

Even if you weren't alive yet, you remember George Michael's iconic supermodel-packed "Freedom '90" music video. Linda Evangelista, Cindy Crawford, Naomi Campbell, Christy Turlington and Tatjana Patitz danced in their lingerie, lounged in bathtubs and gave major face while lip-synching to the 1990 track. More than 25 years later, it still stands up.

BUT — that was then, and this is now, and Vogue called in director Gordon von Steiner to give the concept a 26th anniversary facelift. Von Steiner — who also created those dope light-installation videos at this year's Met Gala — shot mega models Adriana Lima, Joan Smalls, Anna Ewers, Irina Shayk, Taylor Hill, Liu Wen, Imaan Hammam, Gracie Hartzel and more for the abridged rendition featuring the Spring 2017 collections. The girls strut, shake and work the camera in scenes across New York, including the Plaza Hotel and Times Square.

Double taps for likes all around.

Kim Kardashian gets her ass kissed — literally!

Close encounters between Kim Kardashian and her fans are a common occurrence in the media, but this creepy interaction was one for the books.

While in Paris on Wednesday, a stranger quickly slipped past Kim's security, ran up behind her and planted a kiss on her derriere. Usually "kissing ass" is appreciated, but not in this case: Her security team reacted unbelievably fast, pushing the man to the ground.

Vitalii Sediuk, a Ukrainian prankster, is allegedly the attacker. He's carried out many previous attacks on celebs, including grabbing model Gigi Hadid last week during Milan Fashion Week.

Harry, Ron and Hermione probably have better Patronuses than you.

WARNER BROS. PICTURES

Let's complain about Patronus

JENNA BUSCH

Geek Girl in Hollywood

Jenna Busch takes on the way pop culture snubs its female fans. for more columns, visit metro.us/jenna-busch as well as her site, legion of leia (www.legionofleia.com)

Everyone is talking about the debates and frankly, I just can't today. I needed repeated palate cleansers of cat videos while watching ... and I couldn't even look at the orange ones. So today, I'm writing about the national obsession that was going on before the debate. Let's talk about the Patronus quiz.

First of all, if you're not familiar with the world of Harry Potter, a Patronus is basically an animal manifestation of your soul that comes out of your wand. That's really all you need to know. The official Harry Potter website already has quizzes for your house (mine's Ravenclaw, and my Ilvermorny house — that's the American school of Witchcraft and Wizardry — is Thunderbird) and your wand (mine is cedar wood with a Phoenix feather core 12 ½" and Unbending flexibility — feel free to judge). Last week, J.K. Rowling released a quiz on the site to determine your Patronus.

You begin the quiz by wandering through a virtual forest and answering rapid questions, eventually finding out the animal manifestation of your soul. Mine's a fox. Now, the reason I'm writing about this is that not everyone is superhappy with his or her Patronus. I've been reading post after post about how betrayed people feel to find out that their soul is a rat. I've heard things like, "Pottermore betrayed me. My Patronus is a salmon. I'm what, delicious?" Oh, and then there was, "My Patronus is a pig? My soul is bacon?" Even geek god Joss Whedon posted this on Twitter when he learned about his weasel Patronus: "Don't talk to me about nobility or tenaciousness or Ron's wonderful family — my life is OVER."

OK, maybe the quiz shouldn't include aardvarks and moles. Maybe pigs and mice aren't the way to go. Actually, they really aren't. I love the site and I'm happy with my Patronus. (My boyfriend got a shark. A shark!) I don't think, however, that I'd be happy if my Patronus was a duck. I mean, I like ducks, but I don't think they represent my soul, nor do I have any desire to sell insurance.

Fantasy-as-wish-fulfillment is a real thing. It takes us out of our mundane existences and allows us to live vicariously through the characters we love. We wanted to believe we were getting owls telling us we've been accepted to Hogwarts. We wanted to think we were special, too, while reading about Ron, Harry and Hermione. A duck Patronus doesn't exactly make you feel special, now does it?

I recognize that this is a small thing. A very, very small thing, around the size of that mouse Patronus. I know what's going on in the world. I just wanted to take a moment to talk about something wasn't going to affect the government, my rights or the entire world. Maybe put more dragons in the Patronus quiz and make us feel better about our fantasy lives.

Catch it live

We took an early look at the best music acts coming to town this season, no matter what genre is playing in your earbuds. **BRENDAN MCGUIRK**

Sia, Nostalgic for the Present Tour, with Miguel and AlunaGeorge

Tuesday, Oct. 25
Barclays Center
Sia's live show is more of a work of art. Take, for instance, Boston Calling, where the headliner brought her reserved, masterfully staged performance piece and challenged audiences to figure out if the dancers supporting her onstage were in fact the celebrities the projected video indicated. This blurring of fame's veil fits in all too well with the soaring songwriter's work, and she is sure to up the performance's ante for her arena tour.

Phantogram

Saturday, Oct. 22
Hammerstein Ballroom
Hot off a slamming EP with Outkast's Big Boi as "Big Grams," the electro-pop duo of Phantogram is back and supporting their newest album, "Three." Sarah Barthel's vocals are always equally soaring and raw, and their command of affecting musical moments will make this a show worth packing your dancing shoes for.

Lake Street Dive

Saturday, Oct. 8
Radio City Music Hall
The Boston-bred jazzy rock outfit has made a name for themselves with their memorable live shows, which prominently feature lead singer Rachael Price showcasing her impressive range and the band catching the liveliest of grooves. Whether you're unfamiliar or already converted, this concert is your best chance to fall in love with your new favorite band.

Continued on page 20

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NY CLINICAL TRIALS

Continued from page 19

YG, The F— Donald Trump Tour

Monday, Oct. 17
Irving Plaza
L.A.'s "Who Do You Love?" rapper has made identity politics a core tenet to his tour by thematically hanging it all on his anti-Trump anthem "FDT," which stands for exactly what you expect it would and expresses the rage of a generation. The high-energy Def Jam artist is a throwback to a certain kind of rap star, before they all started expressing their tender "feelings," and promises to bring a rowdy show.

Green Day's Revolution Radio Tour

Saturday, Oct. 8
Webster Hall
It's always a good time for nostalgia, and seeing Green Day is your best chance to pretend that all the current fashion trends are true and the '90s never ended. Their new "Revolution Radio" single sounds like a midcareer classic and a perfect opportunity to mosh like you did during your irresponsible past.

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

James Blake

Monday, Oct. 3
Radio City Music Hall
James Blake has made a name for himself by innovating in delicate and atmospheric sounds. The "Retrograde" vocalist isn't afraid to experiment with the mechanics of his backing sonics or his voice, and after a high-profile feature on Beyonce's "Lemonade" and the release of his ambitious "The Colour in Anything," now might be your best chance to catch the R&B Brit live.

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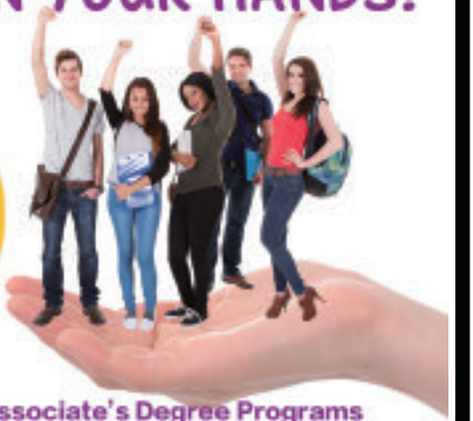

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Your guide to the Meadows Music and Arts festival

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

things to do

WHERE TO EAT, DRINK & PLAY

The organizers behind Governors Ball are putting on their first-ever fall festival in Queens.

BRENDAN MCGUIRK

Music festival season has officially been extended.

The first weekend of October brings The Meadows Music & Arts Festival, a brand-new event looking to keep the summer vibes going as we transition into sweater weather. On Oct. 1-2 at Citi Field, Founders Entertainment will apply the lessons they've learned through six years of organizing the Governors Ball and introduce the city to what could be its new signature musical event.

What wonders will this weekend hold? Here are the highlights of the show.

All eyes on Yeezy

Booked in part to make up for his rained-out set at this year's Governors Ball, Yeezy has been making headlines since his Saint Pablo tour kicked off. NYC already got a taste at Madison Square Garden with his UFO-like "floating" stage above the audience, and an extravagant light show. But over his career, Yeezy has earned a reputation for festival performances worthy of their stages (namely Coachella 2011 and Glastonbury 2015), and while the arena-oriented rig that makes the Pablo magic possible might not be feasible at the Mets' home, he's bound to bring something special.

Chance the Rapper and Post Malone both have features on his new album, GOOD Music partner Pusha T has a verse on "Runaway," and all are scheduled to appear over the weekend — could they be brought out to perform their parts of Kanye's catalogue during his climactic weekend-ending set? Only Pablo knows.

Can Chance the Rapper keep his hot streak going?

Chance the Rapper can't miss right now. He's nailed the album of his career with "Coloring Book," brought down the house at the ESPYs with his Muhammad Ali tribute, and got some facetime with President (and fan) Obama, doing it all his way. The Meadows marks the New York stop of his ambitious Magnificent Coloring World Tour. So the only real question is, will fans be able to manage their disappointment in Chano's abbreviated festival set?

Kamasi Washington is bound to be 'Epic'

Jazzy sax-man Kamasi Washington won huge accolades last year with the release his sprawling solo debut album, "The Epic," as well as for his blows on Kendrick Lamar's "To Pimp a Butterfly." Washington has reinvented jazz for the 21st century — even if you never thought you'd like the genre. After playing to the throngs of this year's Coachella and Bonnaroo festivals, his Saturday set promises to be one of the can't-miss moments of the weekend.climactic weekend-ending set? Only Pablo knows.

Meet your new favorite act

The Meadows will have no shortage of headliners, with a host of mega-stars topping the ticket. But will they own the weekend, or will an up-and-comer make the biggest impression? Queens' own star Bas already stands a good chance of stealing the show, but now that his former tourmate J. Cole has signed onto the Meadows to replace The Weeknd, the hometown hero's set could be the most anticipated of the fest.

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ARTS, CULTURE, ACTION

If you go
New York Burlesque Festival
Sept. 29-Oct. 2
Various venues
Free-$120
thenewyorkburlesquefestival.com

The New York Burlesque Festival celebrates 14 years of turning up the heat. GETTY IMAGES

Birds of all feathers flock to Burlesque Fest

All ages and races are represented in performances, parties, panels and more.

T. MICHELLE MURPHY
@TMichelleMurphy
letters@metro.us

While much of the theater and dance world are dominated by lithe white artists in their prime, burlesque has always been a haven for all ages, body types and backgrounds. That's never been more apparent than at the 14th annual New York Burlesque Festival.

One way the Burlesque Festival commits to inclusivity is by opening its application process to anyone.

"Over 400 people apply each year, and we spend a lot of time curating a show that is going to be fun for us and festivalgoers," says Jen Gapay, co-founder of Burlesque Fest (along with dancer Angie Pontani) and head of Thirsty Girl Productions. "Because we're in New York and have a great reputation, we attract a high caliber of performers. Audiences are really seeing the best burlesque performers in the world."

They include Poison Ivory, the winner of Miss Exotic World 2016 and the cover girl of this year's festival. She performs during the Saturday Showcase at B.B. King Blues Club & Grill, which is hosted by cabaret mainstay Murray Hill.

In addition to the performances, shopping bazaar and awards show (where the towering figure of shimmery spandex that is Scotty the Blue Bunny crowns the best of the fest), there are also parties on Thursday and Friday packed with unique burlesque acts. "Trends tend to be influenced by what's happening culturally in entertainment or politics," says Gapay. "This year we had a lot of people apply with bird acts for some reason. I'm not sure why, but this year people want to dress up like birds!"

Because the general population is becoming more appreciative of burlesque, the fest continues to thrive. "Pretty much everyone who has been to a show embraces the sexuality, sensuality and comedy," Gapay says. For newcomers, she suggests: "Just come with an open mind and heart, and know that burlesque welcomes and supports people of all bodies types. And be ready to have a great time!"

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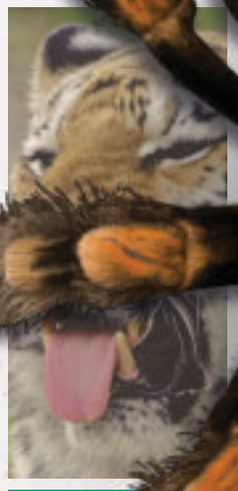
5 Things Only a Bronx Zoo ep Knows

aught a lions raise their fli ers? As part of National Zoo K 're le ecrets, in fact. you want to know more, plan a trip to the is wo keeper chat. If erweek challenge, you could even win a gr 'll se



1. STINK F

If you've Mounta notice ent beh e may hav u in part Along with the five senses humans have, cats have something called the vomeronasal organ, which processes info somewhere between smell and taste. It also allows for some funny photo op

AGE I UST A

This is Abdul, Tortoise, posi with zoo keeper and Rocket are b 100 years old, a they look great. you stop by zoo c make sure to pay - and of course th his awesome work.

ION LUTE

es it's hard to get sters to take their medicine. The same can be said about animals. Our keepers have to get creative about hiding medication for the animals, sticking them in grapes, and other food.

4. PICKY EATERS

In order to ensure the animals are healthy, our keepers train them in husbandry, or healthcare behaviors. That's any behavior that allows a keeper to provide the best possible care to the animal. For sea lions, something like a flipper present allows keepers to inspect the flipper and make sure all is well.

REATS

Our kee the animals basic too health, but they go above and beyond, providing the animals "enrichments." These can be anything from a puzzle feeder to toys. This way the animals stay stimulated, and it's another way for the keepers to check in on their health.

You never know what might pop up.

Macmillan presents:

Boo at the Zoo

13 DAYS OF HALLOWEEN

Weekends at the Bronx Zoo, October 1-30

There's something waiting for you this month at the Bronx Zoo, and it's spooky fun for the whole family! Enjoy our hay maze, pumpkin carvings, costume parades, creepy crafts, magic shows, and more. Bronxzoo.com/boo

Bronx Zoo

Get your polyamory (and much else besdies) on at the House of Love party in Bushwick. SASHA B PHOTOS

Learn to love at House of Yes

House of Love is a different kind of sex party.

EVA KIS
@thisiskis
eva.kis@metro.us

Bushwick might just be NYC's sexiest neighborhood.

On the otherwise unremarkable corner of Jefferson Street and Wyckoff Avenue sits House of Yes, a hub for alternative creative expression in the city. This newest edition of the venue, founded by Anya Sapozhnikova and Kae Burke, is forging into the steamier side of nightlife.

"We were always eclectic. We're not a nightclub that does theater sometimes; we're very immersed in both and everything in between," explains Sapozhnikova.

Recently the duo noticed the mainstreaming of polyamory, S&M and swinger parties, but without the culture and context of the communities in which they originated. So when it came to creating a celebration of love and sexuality at House of Yes — a space whose very name implies a place of discovery and acceptance — Sapozhnikova and her team wanted to make vital elements, like the fluidity of sexuality and the importance of consent, a big part of it.

Think of the House of Love event, which returns Oct. 1, as a progressive party about sex (but there's no nookie on the dance floor). What there is, is pretty much everything else: performers who may pull you onstage to dance; an S&M-themed room for some light themed fun; 5 a.m. shoulder massages; a strip club; live music and acts, plus secret alcoves and sensual settings, including a rooftop hot tub.

If you go

House of Love
Oct. 1, 10 p.m.-6 a.m.
2 Wyckoff Ave.,
Bushwick
Tickets at the door, $15-$30
Must be 21+
Houseoflove.org

These parties also have a personal touch. Both founders are aerial dancers, so at the previous Houses they've produced the theater and circus performances, outsourcing parties to producers. Since reopening House of Yes in January, however, they've been taking on that role, as well.

"We're creating these parties for the community at large, but also for our friends, and we just want to make it as amazing as possible," she says. "It's touches like having ice-cold watermelon passed out on the dance floor at 2:30 in the morning that make people feel like they're in a place that cares about them and understands, 'Wow, to have thought of that, the owners must know what it's like to dance for eight hours straight.'"

Whether it's a couple looking to try something new or friends encouraging each others' exploration, all genders, sexualities, ages and bodies are welcome — as long as they come ready to truly become part of the evening, especially by wearing a costume that "makes you feel beautiful and fun and exciting."

"Parties should not be a consumer experience," Sapozhnikova says. "They should be a sharing experience, where you give as much as you receive." Sounds like the recipe for sex and love, too.

Where to get free java on National Coffee Day

Everyday is coffee day for lovers of the morning staple. But Sept. 29 is officially the day to celebrate the drink, whether you like it hot or iced, or with sugar, cream or soy milk.

Today, many places are offering free cups or other deals for National Coffee Day. Here's a rundown.

Birch Coffee
Free drip coffee at all shops from 7 a.m.-10 a.m. on National Coffee Day.

Cumberland Farms
On National Coffee Day, customers can text the word FREECOFFEE to 64827 using their smartphone to receive a mobile coupon for a free hot or iced coffee in any size (the coupon can only be redeemed on National Coffee Day).

Devocion and Blank Slate
From 2 p.m.-5 p.m., Blank Slate and Devocion will offer a complimentary coffee tasting. Customers and those just passing by can sample two unique blends and learn a thing or two about the art of coffee. It will be sampling La Pizarra, Blank Slate's custom Devocion blend — large-scale drip coffee with notes of dark chocolate, cinnamon and cardamom; and Wild Forest, a manual brew with notes of wild berries, cherries and caramel.

Dunkin' Donuts
Buy a medium coffee for 66 cents to celebrate 66 years of business on National Coffee Day.

Krispy Kreme
Get a free small coffee and original glazed doughnut.

Peet's Coffee
Get a free cup of coffee with the purchase of a breakfast item.

Whole Foods
Stores nationwide are offering 12-ounce cups of coffee for just 25 cents through September.

New York Hilton Midtown and Illy
New York Hilton Midtown and Illy are celebrating the art of coffee with free lattes from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Celebrity barista artist Michael Breach (fans include Amy Schumer, Tim Gunn and LL Cool J) will be in the hotel lobby doing complimentary latte art and taking requests. Coffee lovers can follow New York Hilton Midtown on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram using #CoffeeArtAtHilton for a chance to win a free Illy Francis Francis Y3 Espresso Machine online and at the event.

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ARTS

Mae West's "Sex"

When it came to Broadway, Mae West's "Sex" was deemed so racy that it got the notorious starlet jailed on "morals charges." Based in Montreal's Red Light District and exploring a prostitute's life, the story might have been scandalous for 1926 — but what about today? Find out why the play sparked so much ire and just how progressive we've become as the Dirty Blondes present four staged readings, followed by talkbacks and receptions. **Sept. 29-Oct. 2, Under St. Mark's, 94 St. Mark's, $17, horsetrade.info**

DRINKS

New York Craft Coffee Fest

We're living in the golden age of coffee, but there's always some new technique or varietal to discover. At Villain in Williamsburg, 20 roasters and coffee shops bring their best products for you to sample, introducing you to rare flavor profiles you won't just find in your corner cafe. Entertainment is by Ida Blue, DJ Joe Crisp and Sharon Jones and the Dap Kings. **Oct. 1, Villain, 50 N. Third St., $35-$45, nyccraftcoffeefest.com**

FOOD

Pig & Goat Roast

Three restaurants — Sycamore Flowershop & Bar, Insa Brooklyn and Fleisher's Craft Butchery — come together to keep cookout season going by roasting whole animals over a fire pit. In addition to all the meat you can eat, your ticket gets you a pint and raffle ticket. You can purchase more entries for prizes like karaoke classes or butcher knives to benefit Heritage Foods' No Goat Left Behind Act, which is a real thing. **Oct. 1, Sycamore Flowershop & Bar, 1118 Cortelyou Road, $30, insabrooklyn.com**

REBECCA BULLENE

FOOD

Chile Pepper Festival

The sun may no longer be scorching (thank goodness), but you can still feel the heat at the Brooklyn Botanical Garden this Saturday. Not only can you sample hot sauces crafted locally and coveted nationwide, you can also sample exotic spices and chile-chocolates from a total of 62 food artisans. Plus, six bands will be keeping the stages hot all day with Moroccan, African, Cuban and Latin sounds. Your ticket also lets you explore the grounds, attend talks and browse cookbooks. **Oct. 1, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Brooklyn Botanical Garden, 990 Washington Ave., Brooklyn, $15-$20, bbg.org**

FOOD

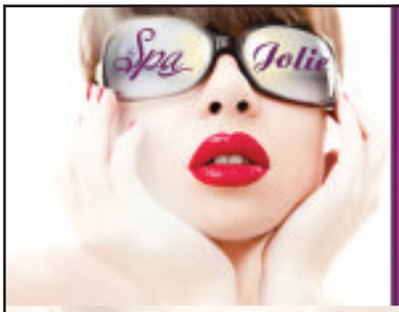
Grub Street Food Festival

The Hester Street Fair goes gourmet this weekend with this seventh annual food fest, which gathers rows and rows of local food and drink vendors together in one place on the Lower East Side. It's free to stroll through — pay only for whatever catches your fancy. **Oct. 1, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Hester Street at Essex, free, grubstreet.com**

BEER

Oktoberfest

Williamsburg is getting in on the Oktoberfest action with 12 nights of live music and German-themed food and drink specials all month long. Starting Saturday, you can enter for $15 and order a la carte or spend $35 to include the Wurst Platter filled with spaetzle, knockwurst, weisswurst, cabbage, pickles and pretzel bread. Or try the $35 Beer Boot Special in a liter souvenir glass with $10 refills. **Oct. 1-Oct. 31, The Hall at MP, 470 Driggs Ave., $15-$35, thehallbrooklyn.com** T. MICHELLE MURPHY



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You don't have to settle for a daiquiri — there are plenty of interesting drink choices on the island. ISTOCK

Craft cocktails and sunshine in Aruba

The island is now a destination for innovative drinks.

For many, a Caribbean vacation means three things: sun, surf and supersweet, snowball-size drinks.

In Aruba, the drink of choice for generations has been the Aruba Ariba, a cocktail classic that relies on coecoei, a red agave-based liquor you can only find on the island, as a key ingredient. That's one reason you should try the drink while in Aruba — you won't be able to get it easily anywhere else on the planet.

But once you've tried the Aruba Ariba, there will be plenty of other concoctions to sample as the island comes into its own as a destination for cocktail enthusiasts.

On Oct. 15, sip one, or five — hey, you're on vacay! — delicious cocktails during Island Temptations magazine's Bartenders' Brawl. Top local bartenders will throw down during this epic battle of mixology for a chance to be crowned Aruba's Iron Bartender.

This is the second year Island Temptations is holding the Bartenders' Brawl, which is seeing its field of battle expanding.

"We had three bartenders last year, representing three major island liquor purveyors, this year we have five bartenders representing five companies who are competing with original drink recipes," says Rona Coster, who manages public relations and special projects for the magazine.

Danny van der Linden, of former restaurant, now catering business Hollywood Smokehouse, won with the Aruba Aloe cocktail, a tequila-based refresher, after 200 ticket holders sampled the cocktails in competition and picked their favorite.

"This year, the public, locals and tourists will sample all five and then vote," says Coster.

The ingredients of the Aruba Aloe underscore how the fresh fruits and kitchen techniques of the craft-cocktail scene, which has gripped America and Europe, is making its way to the islands: Sauza Gold Tequila, Aloe Vera Juice, house-made cucumber soda, mint, agave, fresh lime juice, a pinch of salt, mint and aloe caviar.

Lemonade Seranade ISLAND TEMPTATIONS MAGAZINE

Tina Causey-Bislick, the editorial and creative director for Island Temptations and former creative director for Hollywood Smokehouse, said Aruba restaurants and bars are now striving for "something beyond the typical sugar- and high fructose corn syrup-laden frozen daiquiris and margaritas."

Establishments now "infuse some of our liquors, make our own fresh ginger and cucumber sodas, and we are dabbling in some unique homemade bitters," said Causey-Bislick. "Our craft cocktails are becoming a hit for destination beach weddings, with the Aruba Aloe, as well as our Cocopom Cooler — which is a modern take on traditional rum punch, the Lemonade Serenade (super refreshing beach cocktail), and the Sangria Sunset Sparkle being the most requested."

What's in store during the Bartenders Brawl? That's under wraps as the competitors prepare.

"I do not know what cocktails they are competing with, as they are keeping a tight lid on their creations until the night of the event," says Causey-Bislick. "After last year's Bartender's Brawl and the overwhelming success of the sold-out event, it was exciting to see Aruba's bartenders stepping up their game, trying new techniques, and now craft cocktails are mainstreaming throughout the resorts and restaurants on the island." METRO

If you go

The 2nd Annual Bartenders' Brawl
Saturday, Oct. 15
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Beachfront at Divi Resorts
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Chasing the fall

The Roundhouse Hotel overlooks the Beacon Falls, located just 15 minutes from the Mount Beacon trailhead. ROUNDHOUSE HOTEL

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A play-by-play of where to catch the best foliage in New York

KATE MOONEY
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kate.mooney@metro.us

Fall is the most fleeting season in the Northeast. As soon as temperatures cool down, providing much needed relief from the summer, there's but a month or two before we're layering up to fight the winter chill.

Nothing epitomizes this reality more than the leaves, which every year turn bright, radiant colors, and in the blink of an eye, pile up, crunchy and dead at our feet. To paraphrase Ferris Bueller: The leaves change pretty fast; if you don't stop and look around, you could miss them.

Leaf peeping, while certainly a seasonal pastime, could almost be considered a fall sport. To be good at it, you've got to plan your strategy, and execute it swiftly. Knowing where to go, and when, is key.

Thankfully, every fall, state tourism site I Love NY puts together a weekly foliage report providing the most up-to-date status of the leaves by region.

According to data provided by the site, average peak foliage is expected to hit the Catskills the first and second week of October; in the Hudson River Valley, the third and fourth weeks of October; and in New York City proper, it might not be until the second half of November before we're treated to full-on colors.

Here's a guide for where to go to catch the leaves before they fall — and once you're there, where to eat, drink and stay — all within a few hours of the city. Hurry, winter will be here before you know it.

Day trip: Hudson River Valley

For the best vantage points two hours or closer from the city, we asked the founders of travel site

Phoenicia Diner: comfort eats, retro-chic setting. KEVIN TRAGESER/PHOENICIA DINER

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Escape Brooklyn, married couple Erin Lindsey and Denny Brownell, who are pros at helping New Yorkers get out of town.

Look-out point: They recommend Mount Beacon, whose trailhead is located a short walk or cab ride from the Metro North station in the town of Beacon. It's 2½ fairly steep miles to the first overlook, where you'll wander among the ruins of an old casino while taking in incredible views of the Hudson River, Beacon and neighboring towns. If you're ambitious, keep going a couple more miles to get to an old fire tower, whose stairs you can climb for an even higher vantage point.

Where to eat and drink: After the hike, you'll have worked up an appetite. Luckily, Beacon is a quaint but lively town, with a handful of cafes. You can't wrong with Poppy's, right on Main Street, which has delicious burgers made with grass-fed beef, and hand-cut fries, or Dogwood, which pairs craft beers with pub fare. End your day relaxing with a cocktail on the patio of the boutique Roundhouse Hotel, which looks out onto Beacon Falls.

Take a load off at the Emerson Resort and Spa, located just outside of Phoenicia in the Catskills. EMERSON RESORT

Overnight: Catskills

If you're looking to make an overnight or weekend trip of it, head an extra hour or so north to the Catskill region, where there's no shortage of high peaks with breathtaking views — and charming small towns at their summit.

Look-out point: Brownell and Lindsey name Overlook Mountain as a favorite hike in the region. Located just outside of Woodstock, it's a 2½-mile, fairly strenuous ascent to the top, worth it for the ruins of an old hotel and a fire tower with 360 degree views.

If you'd like to be around water (before it freezes over), Eric Scheffel, a spokesman for I Love New York, suggests hiking Kaaterskill Falls, 20 miles north in Hunter, New York. As the tallest two-tier waterfall in New York state, the falls themselves are stunning, not to mention the surrounding views of the mountains.

New York City

If you aren't able to get out of town this season, you can still enjoy fall colors right in the city. In mid-November, when the leaves are expected to reach their peak, make your way to Central Park where you'll be surrounded by those rich autumn hues in the maples, oak and elm trees. Hit the observation deck at Belvedere Castle at 79th St. for a panoramic view of the park.

From the top of the Empire State Building and the One World Observatory—which is atop the tallest building in the Western hemisphere—you can take in a bird's eye view of foliage in treetops from Manhattan to the Hudson Valley.

Where to stay: The Emerson Resort and Spa provides comfy digs bridging the gap between rustic and luxury (think: fireplaces and whirlpool tubs), conveniently located just a five-minute drive from the trendy "hickster" town of Phoenicia, 20 minutes from Woodstock, and 30 minutes out from the aforementioned hikes. From now through Oct. 18, they're offering a "leaf peeping" special: a complimentary third night's stay if you book two, along with a free day of bike rentals.

Where to eat and drink: Just down the road, Phoenicia Diner is the go-to for seriously delicious comfort food served up in a retro setting, a favorite for both locals and tourists alike. For fine dining, head to Cucina, a contemporary Italian eatery in an old yellow farmhouse in Woodstock. End the day with a drink back at the resort, as you look out at the Esopus Creek and feel your worries fall away.

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IMPOSSIBLE TO COME TO GRIPS WITH THE DEATH OF JOSE FERNANDEZ

SID ROSENBERG

OPINION

Sid Rosenberg co-hosts "The Bernie and Sid Show" on WABC in New York. You can reach him on Twitter @SidRosenberg

Marlins players touch the hearse carrying the body of Jose Fernandez Wednesday. GETTY IMAGES

I woke up Sunday morning and did not believe what I had heard. I wished that what I was reading was not true. One of baseball's most promising young talents, Jose Fernandez, had passed away in a overnight boating accident. It hit me to the core.

The broad-shouldered Fernandez had burst onto the scene in 2013 for the Miami Marlins and was one of the most exciting pitchers in baseball to watch. Fernandez dazzled in his first major league season and became the first Cuban-born player ever to win the Rookie of the Year award. That year he was also selected to represent the Marlins in the All-Star game and became only the third player in All-Star game history to record two strikeouts prior to his 21st birthday in an All-Star game debut. This young man was a one-of-a-kind talent.

After his rookie season, Fernandez tore a ligament in his pitching arm and had to undergo Tommy John surgery — which wiped out his entire 2015 season. But when he returned in 2016 he came back stronger than ever, making his second All-Star appearance — befuddling batters along the way with his signature curveball appropriately nicknamed "The Defector."

Aside from his talent throwing the baseball, the one thing that stood out the most about Fernandez was his smile and electric personality. When Fernandez took the field it always looked as though he was ready break into a exotic dance routine. That's the type of energy he brought to the ballpark. When he would end an inning with a strikeout he reminded me of a little kid dancing at a wedding after the adults had tired out, realizing he had the floor all to himself. When JoFer took the mound it was a treat to watch, he had it all.

Jose Fernandez was the type of player that I cannot wait to tell my grandchildren about. The passion and emotion that Fernandez had for the game was unique. Not many people wake up every morning excited to go to work, but Fernandez seemed to relish the opportunity he was given and we should all try to share the passion he had for not baseball but for life.

It truly is a shame that death makes people realize how phenomenal a person is, but that's how it goes sometimes. Jose Fernandez had so much to offer both on and off the baseball diamond and he will surely be missed. The outpouring of love and affection we have seen across Major League Baseball is a testament to what he meant to his teammates, his coaches and his peers.

Fernandez was the image of what the American dream has become. He fled Cuba with hopes of a better life for himself on his family and was able to fulfill that dream. We can only hope that one day we are blessed with a public figure with the characteristics and charisma that embodied Jose Fernandez.

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Terrelle Pryor is the only reason to watch the Browns. GETTY IMAGES

OPINION

BILL DUBIEL

More young players emerged in Week 3, and many should still be on the fantasy waiver wire in your league. Get the jump on them as soon as you can.

Washington should carry the mail

With Ameer Abdullah sidelined for at least the next seven or eight weeks, the Lions backfield was completely up in the air going into Week 3. The picture is now a bit clearer; pass-catching specialist Theo Riddick proved that he can't be a feature back while rookie Dwayne Washington showed how effective he can be on the ground. Riddick rushed for just nine yards on 10 carries, while Washington trucked his way to 38 yards on the same amount of carries. Riddick will remain the primary pass-catching option, while Washington seems to have established himself as the main ball-carrier.

Swiss army knife Pryor locked-in

Former college quarterback Terrelle Pryor made an impact in every aspect of the offense in Week 3, posting 144 yards on eight catches, 21 yards and a touchdown as a runner and 35 passing yards as a QB. With rookie Cody Kessler not prepared to carry the lackluster offense, it's a safe bet that Pryor will continue to be the X-factor as the Browns try to move the ball down the field. With this kind of usage expected to continue, Pryor needs to be added in all formats.

Murray losing touches every week

The Raiders' Latavius Murray was drafted as an RB2 in most fantasy leagues, and he's returned that value on the strength of three rushing touchdowns (one in each week). Unfortunately for his team's owners, Murray now seems to be entrenched in a timeshare of sorts, as both Jalen Richard and DeAndre Washington are seeing significant touches each week. Washington even led the Raiders in rushing in Week 3 with 57 yards on just six rushes against the Titans. It's impossible to bank on a touchdown each week, and if Murray isn't scoring then he may not be worth starting.

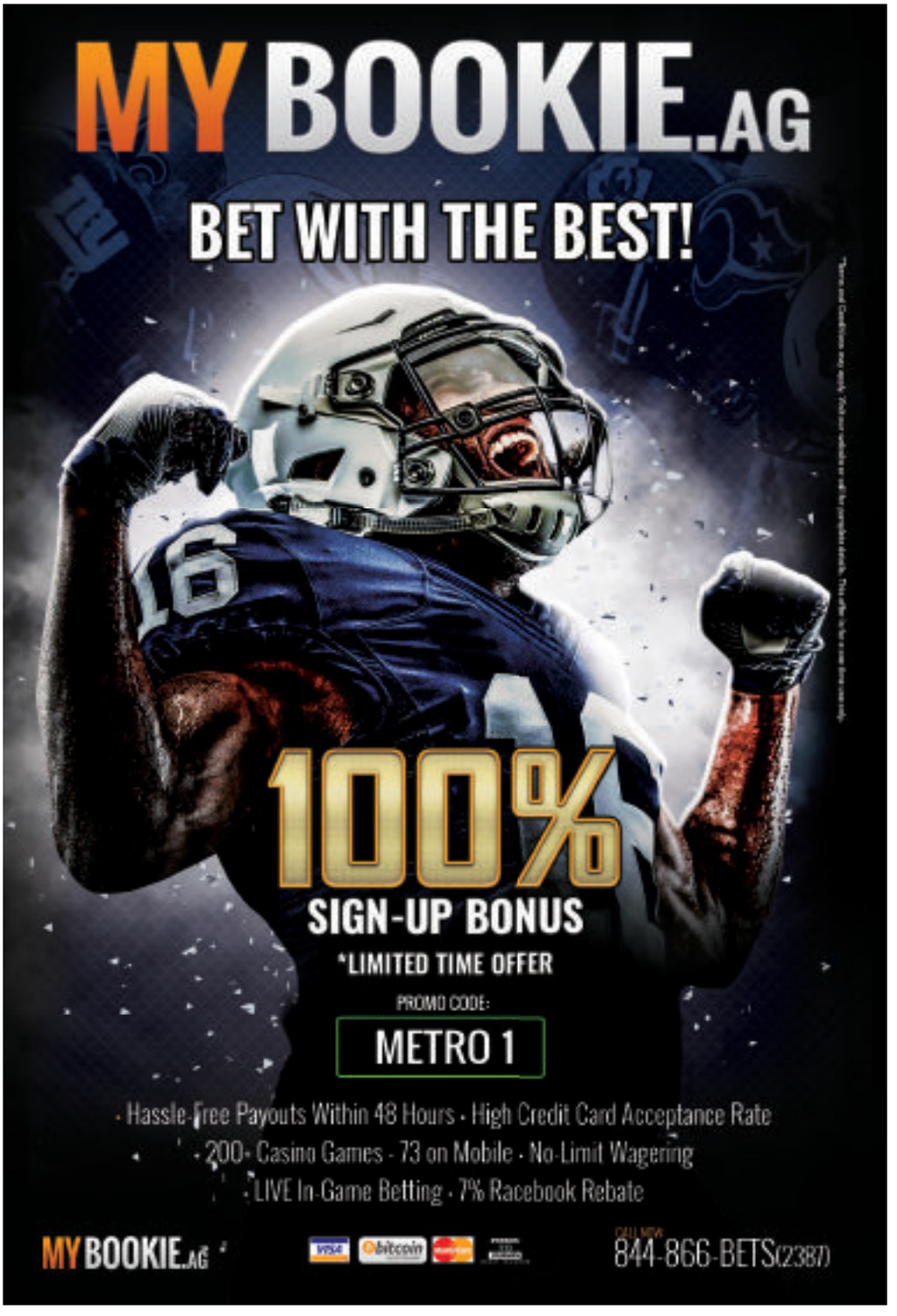
NFL sleepers of the week

Each week we will identify three players worth taking a shot on in deeper leagues.

Jamison Crowder, WR, Washington Redskins – Has emerged as a consistent flex option each week, with 185 yards and two touchdowns on 16 catches through three games.

Jordan Howard, RB, Chicago Bears – With Jeremy Langford expected to miss four to six weeks and backup Ka'Deem Carey also ailing, Howard should be the feature back for Week 4 and beyond.

Cameron Brate, TE, Tampa Bay Buccaneers – Austin Seferian-Jenkins was released by the Bucs last week, leaving Brate as the unquestioned tight end. He responded with a 5-46-2 line in Week 3, and should continue to produce every week.



Mets continue their fight to get into the postseason

The Mets need to take care of business in Philly this weekend.

EVAN MACY
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evan.macy@metro.us

Jay Bruce, Curtis Granderson and the Mets will be in Philly this weekend. GETTY IMAGES

The Mets hold their own playoff fate in their hands as the final three games of the regular season approach this weekend. In the season-finale series, the Mets can lower their magic number and clinch a postseason berth.

On the road against the lowly Phillies, the Mets are the on-paper favorites to win not only a Wild Card playoff berth but also a home Wild Card game, as they are on top of three contenders for two spots.

"It's real encouraging," Mets manager Terry Collins said. "We've got [three] to go. We've just got to play them out."

In three contests in South Philly, New York will put Robert Gsellman, Bartolo Colon and Noah Syndergaard on the mound to combat whoever the Phillies decide to hurl. Many on the Phils starting rotation are either shut down due or injury or innings limit as the team regroups for 2017.

If the Mets win their final three games as September wanes, they'll clinch one of the two Wild Card slots. Any loss from San Francisco or St. Louis puts the Mets a little closer to making the playoffs.

It's possible that, should New York clinch prior to Sunday's matinee at Citizens Bank Park, the team holds Syndergaard for the one-game Wild Card game, but those specifics will be worked out later this week.

The Giants have four games left, one versus the Rockies and then a three-game set against the Dodgers at home — who have already clinched the NL West.

The Cardinals also have four division games left, with one more against the Reds at home before the Pirates come to town.

Friday's 7:05 matchup against Philadelphia is the regular season's last night game, with Saturday (1:05) and Sunday (3:05) falling as afternoon contests — the penultimate game was moved to daylight due to national TV interest.

The Phillies will surely try and play spoiler, as they unofficially bid farewell to Ryan Howard during their final homestand. Expect a little more juice and perhaps a few more fans than usual to watch the Phils close out their season — as Howard is the final member of the team's 2008 World Series winning team left on the squad.

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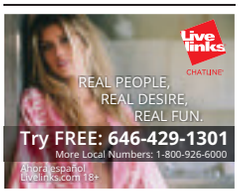
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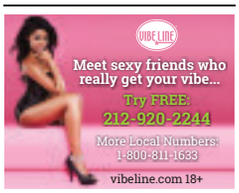

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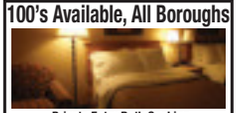

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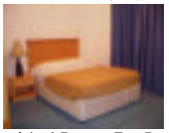

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metro.us/crossword

Across

1 Earth has one
6 Wing it?
10 Oops! (hyph.)
14 "-- la vista, baby!"
15 Ration
16 Write a bad check
17 Like krypton
18 Pandora's boxful
19 Canal or lake
20 See eye to eye
21 Political gatherings
23 Meyers of "Kate & Allie"
25 Chips go-with
26 A nanny pushes it
29 Motion picture
32 Took for a ride
37 Family mem.
38 Anvil, to a doctor
39 Ness' quarry
40 No question about it (4 wds.)
43 Fare counters
44 Carryall
45 Mongrel
46 Lax
47 Toward sunrise, in Spain
48 Clarified butter
49 Ben & Jerry rival
51 Greek P
53 Fetch
58 "Tiny Alice" penner
62 Rochester's Jane
63 Economist -- Greenspan
64 Role model
65 Shapely legs
66 Late-night Jay
67 Polygraph flunkers
68 Insect pest
69 Tizzy
70 Know intuitively

Down

1 Mexican mint
2 Sounded a bell
3 Net surfer
4 River feeder
5 Spud
6 Bank safety org.
7 "Whatever -- Wants"
8 Refer to
9 Joe of "My Cousin Vinny"
10 Luau guitars
11 Take on
12 Redding or Skinner
13 Laugh syllable
22 News bulletin
24 Laptop images
26 Formal dances
27 Fight off
28 Comic-strip queen
30 Gary's st.
31 Wildlife shelters
33 Mdse. bars
34 Hunt illegally
35 Follow upon
36 Tractor pioneer
38 Carnival huckster
39 More appealing
41 Toshiba rival
42 Steaming
47 Grommet
48 Hawn of Hollywood
50 Watch faces
52 Flags down
53 Meg -- of films
54 Funny Bombeck
55 Kind of pilot
56 Windmill blade
57 Sufficient, in verse
59 Conk on the noggin
60 Snakes lack these
61 Failing that
62 It may be hard-boiled

metro.us/sudoku

easy

						2		
	2	8			7	9		
	1		5	3		6		7
	9	6	8		3			
		7		9		8		
			7		1	3	4	
5		3		2	8		6	
		9	4			7	2	
		1						

hard

4			8	2				
8	6				5			
3		2		7				
	5	4	2		8		6	
			4		1			
	9		3		7	2	5	
				4		6		5
			5				2	7
				1	2			9

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Don't share too much with others. Assess what people are doing and adjust your plans accordingly. A secretive approach will give you the edge over any competition.

Taurus Take action if you see something you want. Claim your space, stake out your position and pursue your goals. You can turn your idea or plan into a reality.

Gemini Ask questions. Don't believe anyone who is pushy, persuasive or offering the impossible. You'll benefit if you gather facts and take care of business personally.

Cancer Discuss your plans with someone who will be affected by the decisions you make. The input you get will be helpful and will lead to a closer bond between you.

Leo Plan a trip or make arrangements to get together with people who inspire you. Bring about change by presenting what you want to see happen. Success is within reach.

Virgo If you show your playful side while networking, you could build a greater bond with important people. Update your appearance in order to receive compliments.

Libra Avoid a dispute. You cannot win a battle if you do not have the facts. Your perception is off, and this will cost you if you make assumptions or act in haste.

Scorpio Don't leave anything undone. Paying close attention to detail will pay off. An unexpected personal change will help give you a new lease on life.

Sagittarius Someone will withhold information, misinterpret you or lead you astray. Ask questions and look at the big picture before you make a decision.

Capricorn A financial deal will be riddled with problems. Don't count on anything or anyone. Do the legwork yourself and follow instructions carefully.

Aquarius Your hard work will pay off. Stick to your plan and invest in your skills and knowledge. Update your résumé in order to improve your cash flow.

Pisces Do everything according to the instructions you've been given. Save your idea for your own benefit, instead of using it to make someone else look good. EUGENIA LAST

Yesterday's answers

E	N	G	R	■	R	O	B	E	■	S	C	A	R	F
S	O	R	E	■	E	C	R	U	■	T	O	R	T	E
T	R	I	M	■	F	E	A	R	■	E	R	N	E	S
A	M	M	O	N	I	A	■	O	N	E	N	E	S	S
■	■	■	V	A	N	N	A	■	O	L	E	■	■	■
S	C	H	E	M	E	■	S	Q	U	E	A	K	B	Y
P	H	A	S	E	■	A	T	T	N	■	S	A	R	A
R	I	D	■	S	U	N	R	I	S	E	■	R	O	W
A	N	T	S	■	S	N	I	P	■	R	O	M	A	N
T	O	O	L	S	H	E	D	■	D	R	Y	A	D	S
■	■	■	A	W	E	■	E	P	E	E	S	■	■	■
L	A	N	T	E	R	N	■	R	E	D	T	A	P	E
O	M	A	H	A	■	A	T	O	M	■	E	N	I	D
L	I	V	E	R	■	S	A	N	E	■	R	E	N	D
L	E	E	R	S	■	H	O	E	D	■	S	W	A	Y

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